

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12

PRS-01 H-02 NIC-01 INRE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 RSR-01 SR-02

ORM-03 SAJ-01 /117 W

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P R 090910 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7807

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3835

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CVIS UR

SUBJECT: JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM USSR

1. NUMBER OF RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCAL JEWISH SOURCES PROVIDES ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE SUSPENDED COLLECTION OF EDUCATION TAX FROM INTENDING EMIGRANTS TO ISRAEL. SEVERAL LEADING JEWISH ACTIVITSTS SAID THAT THEY HAD NOT HEARD OF SINGLE CASE IN WHICH LEVY HAD BEEN COLLECTED SINCE MARCH 19. HOWEVER, THEY ADDED THAT BULK OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING EXIT PERMISSION SINCE THAT DATE WERE THOSE WHO HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED THEY COULD LEAVE FOR ISRAEL, BUT WHO LACKED NECESSARY FUNDS TO PAY EDUCATION LEVY.

2. ONE INDIVIDUAL, WHO HAD SUBMITTED EMIGRATION APPLICATION ABOUT FIVE MONTHS AGO, REPORTED RECEIVING EXIT PERMISSION ON MARCH 30. HE STATED OVIR INSPECTOR HAD INFORMED HIM THAT HE HAD BEEN " GRANTED WAIVER" OF EDUCATION LEVY.

3. GROUP OF AT LEAST 40 JEWISH ACTIVITSTS IS REPORTED PLANNING VISIT TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS APRIL 10 FOR PURPOSE OF LEAVING PETITION CONCERNING JEWISH EMIGRATION. (EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED ADVANCE COPY OF PETITION.) IN PETITION, HEWS NOTE
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THAT THEY HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY TO SIMILAR PETITION SUBMITTED TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE LAST OCTOBER. THEY NOTE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT RESULTING FROM SUSPENSION OF IMPOSITION OF EDUCATION TAX. NEVERTHELESS, THEY POINT OUT THAT LARGE NUMBER JEWS ARE STILL BEING REFUSED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE WITHOUT SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION. THEY ASK WHETHER AUTHORITIES INTEND TO CONTINUE PREVIOUS POLICY OF REFUSING LARGE NUMBERS OF JEWS PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL.

4. SOURCES ALSO REPORTED ARRESTS ON TBILISI STREET APRIL 4 OF TWO BROTHERS (FNU GULSTEYN), LONG ACTIVE IN JEWISH MOVEMENT. AGED 37 AND 41, BROTHERS ARE BOTH SCIENTISTS WHO HAD ALREADY BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE. BROTHERS HAD PREVIOUSLY HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH KGB AFTER FILING COMPLAINT CHARGING THAT RECENTLY PUBLISHED ANTI- ZIONIST BOOK CONTAINED ANTI- SEMITIC STATEMENTS. ALTHOUGH EXACT NATURE OF CHARGES AGAINST GULSTEYNS NOT YET KNOWN, LOCAL SOURCES EXPECT THEM TO BE EQUIVALENT TO THOSE CONTAINED EITHER IN PARAGRAPH 70 OR PARAGRAPH 190 OF RSFSR CRIMINAL CODE.
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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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